

Media Contact:

Sarah Ardalani Public Information Officer 213-257-2000 SArdalani@da.lacounty.gov

Twitter: @LADAOffice

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Three Charged with Capital Murder for Home Invasion Robbery in Downey

Two men and a teenager accused of breaking into a Downey house and killing the homeowner were charged today, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Paul Darvis Misikei (dob 4/26/97), Henry Willie Sao (dob 2/4/88) and Sakaopo Atanasio Folau (dob 11/24/98) have each been charged with three felony counts in case VA141024: murder, home invasion robbery and first-degree burglary, person present.

The charging document includes a special circumstance allegation that the defendants committed the murder during the course of a robbery and residential burglary.

Additionally, the felony complaint includes a special allegation that Misikei, Sao and Folau committed great bodily injury upon the victim during the commission of the crime.

The three defendants are scheduled to be arraigned today in Department 5 at the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Downey Branch. Prosecutors will ask that Misikei, Sao and Folau be held on no bail.

Deputy District Attorney Efrain Matthew Aceves is prosecuting the case.

On Jan. 17 the three defendants reportedly went to the Downey home of Jim Rudometkin, 59, prosecutors said.

While at the residence, Misikei and Folau allegedly forced their way into Rudometkin's home. Shortly thereafter, Sao also reportedly entered the home, prosecutors said.

As this was occurring, a neighbor saw the attack and called police, according to prosecutors.

When police arrived at the home, the defendants attempted to flee the scene, however, Misikei and Sao were soon located and arrested, prosecutors said. Folau was apprehended two days later.

When police entered the victim's home, they found Rudometkin bound and unresponsive. The victim was subsequently pronounced dead at the scene, prosecutors said.

If convicted, Misikei and Sao could face the death penalty if prosecutors decide later to seek it. Folau, because of his age, faces up to life in state prison if convicted as charged.

The case is being investigated by the Downey Police Department.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the <u>Los Angeles County District Attorney's</u>

<u>Office</u> prosecuted more than 71,000 felony defendants and 112,000 misdemeanor defendants.